

## Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 EB-11 NIC-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01

DRC-01 /161 W

----- 014816

R 291700Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5961

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 1694

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG UR

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SOVIET TEAM TO DISCUSS CANAL CLEARANCE  
AND RECONSTRUCTION

1. ON MARCH 29, DEPUTY TASS DIRECTOR YEDRASHNIKOV STATED TO EMBOFF THAT SOVIET TEAM PRESENTLY IN EGYPT WAS LOOKING INTO POSSIBILITIES OF SUEZ CANAL CLEARANCE AND/OR RECONSTRUCTION. YEDRASHNIKOV SAID THAT TEAM NUMBERED 13, WAS LEAD BY AN ADMIRAL AND FIVE OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL INCLUDING A COLONEL AND TWO LT COLONELS, MOST OF WHOM WERE SPECIALISTS IN UNDERWATER EXPLOSIVES DETECTION AND DISPOSAL. BALANCE OF TEAM WAS MADE UP OF CONSTRUCTION SPECIALISTS.

2. YEDRASHNIKOV SAID THAT TEAM'S PRIMARY PURPOSE WAS TO FIND PROJECTS WHICH THE SOVIET UNION COULD UNDERTAKE TO GIVE SEMBLANCE OF PARTICIPATION IN RECONSTRUCTION OF EGYPT. DECISION AS TO WHICH PROJECTS WOULD BE LEFT TO MOSCOW, BUT YEDRASHNIKOV THOUGHT THAT ONLY RECONSTRUCTION WORK WOULD BE INVOLVED SINCE GOE HAD SHOWN LITTLE ENTHUSIASM FOR SOVIET HELP IN MINE CLEARANCE FROM CANAL.

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3. YEDRASHNIKOV COMMENTED THAT SOVIET UNION HAD BEEN VERY SLOW

OFF THE MARK TO EXPLOIT OPPORTUNITIES FOR RELATIVELY INEXPENSIVE  
INVOLVEMENT IN ISSUE WITH POTENTIALLY HIGH PROPAGANDA VALUE.  
HE SAID HE THOUGHT THAT DECISION HAD BEEN TAKEN IN MOSCOW SOME  
MONTHS AGO TO DO NOTHING FOR EGYPT UNTIL GROMYKO COULD VISIT CAIRO  
AND DETERMINE PROBABLE FUTURE OF EGYPTIAN/SOVIET RELATIONSHIP.  
EILTS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC RECOVERY, FOREIGN RELATIONS, INTERNATIONAL CANALS, DREDGING, MILITARY VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974CAIRO01694  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740070-0379  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, EG, UR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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